ETH zürich



Does climate change influence the frequency of large rock slope failures?

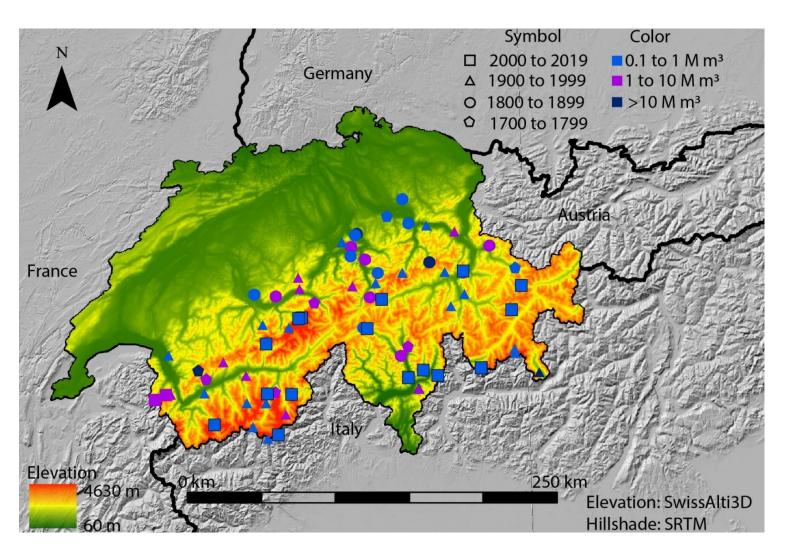
Simon Loew, Nora Bühler, Jordan Aaron; Chair of Engineering Geology, ETH Zürich



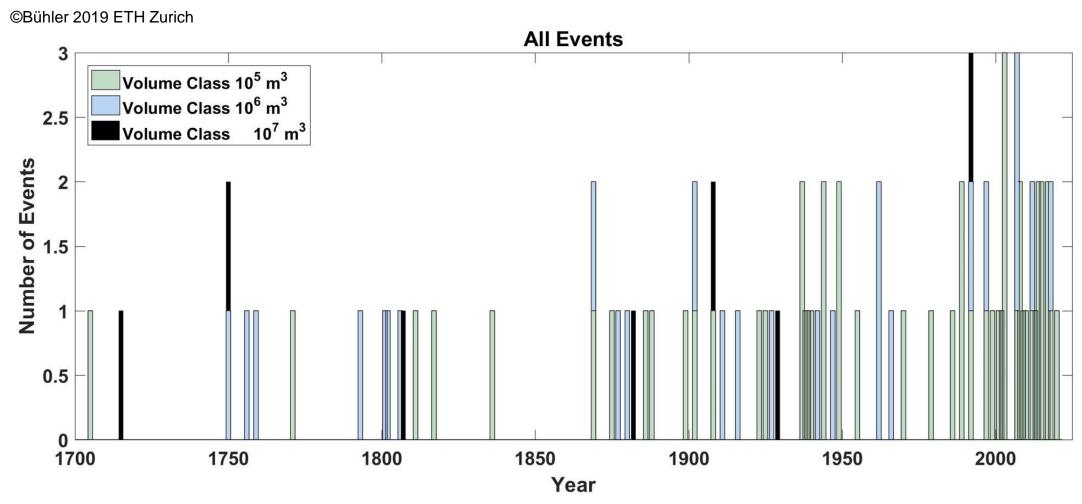
Is all of this true?



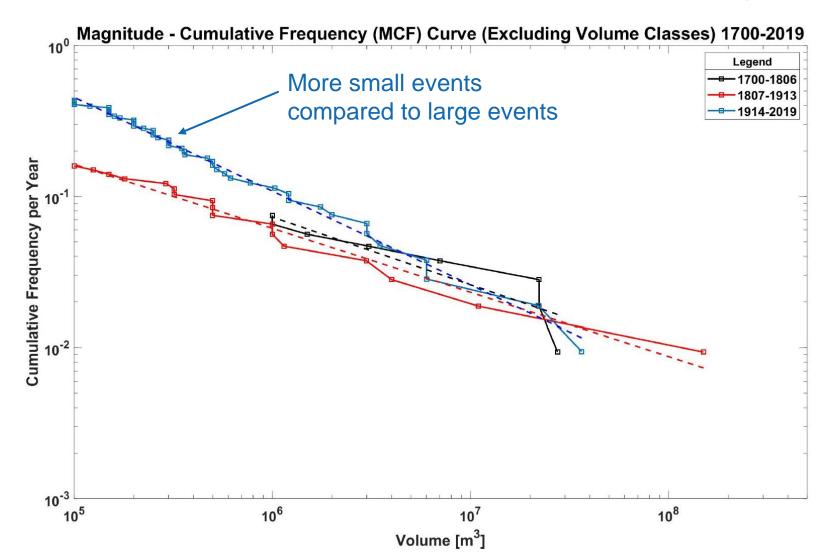
First Complete Catalog of Large Catastrophic Rock Slope Failures (> 100'000 m³) since 1700 from Swiss Alps



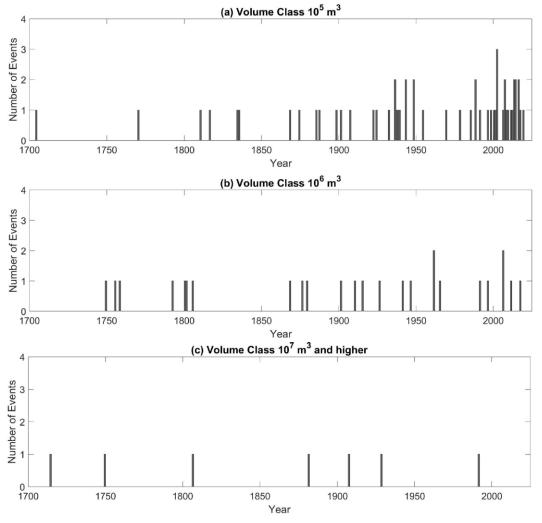
Rock Slope Failures since 1700 by Volume Class



Cumulative Magnitude-Frequency Relationships: Confirm Completeness of Event Sampling in all 3 Sampling Periods

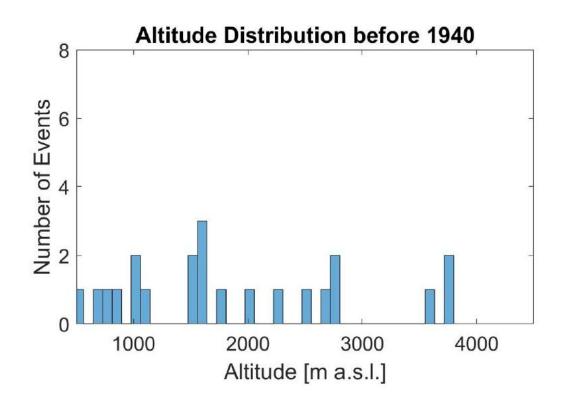


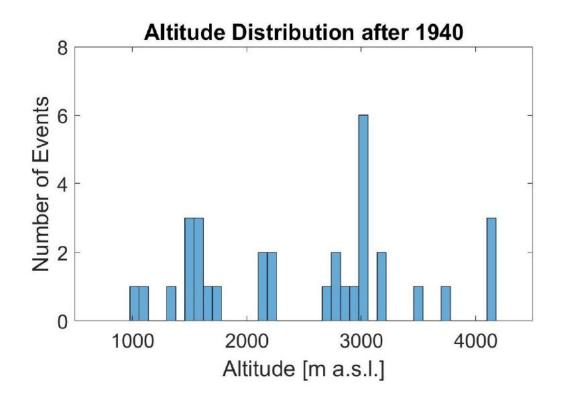
Frequency of Slope Failures in Relationship to Time and Volume: Only Volume Class 10⁵ m³ increases in Frequency since 1940





Increase in Event Altitude of 10⁵ m³ Volume Class since 1940: Is Permafrost Melting the Trigger of these Slope Failures?







Depth of Large Rock Slope Failures in Relationship to (small) Permafrost Active Layer Thickness Evolution

